IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION - CINCINNATI

MICHAEL J. HOWARD, : Case No. 1:19-cv-274

Petitioner, : Judge Matthew W. McFarland

v. :

WARDEN,

Pickaway Correctional Institution, :

Respondent. :

ENTRY AND ORDER ADOPTING REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Doc. 16)

The Court has reviewed the Report and Recommendations of United States

Magistrate Judge Michael R. Merz (Doc. 16), to whom this case is referred pursuant to

28 U.S.C. § 636(b). Noting that no objections have been filed, and the time for filing

such objections has expired, the Court ADOPTS said Report and Recommendations in

its entirety and DISMISSES this action with prejudice. Since reasonable jurists would

not disagree with this conclusion, it is ORDERED that Petitioner is denied a certificate

of appealability. The Court also CERTIFIES that any appeal would be objectively

frivolous and that Petitioner should not be permitted to proceed in forma pauperis.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

By:

JUDGE MATTHEW W. McFARLAND